

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEs LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
May 12, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

BE IT KNOWN that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District was called in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on May 12, 2009, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Janet Jones, Secretary
Doris Rogé, Member
Adolph Sklar, Member
Alfred Bruning, Member
Gary Anderson, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member

Absent were:

Billy Giddens, Member

Also present were:

Gary Eldridge, DOTD
Alan Sheppard, SprayMax

The minutes from the April 14, 2009 meeting were reviewed. On motion by Adolph Sklar, seconded by Janet Jones, the Minutes were approved.

The April, 2009 Financial Statement was reviewed and discussed. On motion by Alfred Bruning, seconded by Doris Rogé, the April, 2009 Financial Statement was approved.

The Maintenance Report was then given by Robert Vercher. Mr. Vercher advised that due to the high water they were checking all of the flood gates. His crew had been bush hogging at Powhatan, but they had to quit because of rain. There was discussion about problems with one of the tractors and whether to repair the tractor or buy a new one. Karlton Methvin advised that he had talked with John Deere about purchasing a new tractor

under the State contract and indicated he would give more details during his report. Mr. Vercher advised that his crew needed to pull two posts at Kennedy's place and fill with concrete in order to alleviate one of the obstructions noted by the Corps of Engineers. The Board instructed Mr. Vercher to continue to monitor the level of the Red River and open and shut the flood gates as necessary.

The DOTD report was given by Gary Eldridge. He reported on his inspection of Roger Collum's place located at 101 Desadier Road in Natchitoches. He stated that Mr. Collum would need to apply for an After-the-Fact Permit for his retaining wall, boat ramp and camp. Collum would also need to apply for a Permit for a waterline across the levee and for the road that he wants to build over the Levee. He also advised the Board relative to his inspection, along with the Corps of Engineers, of the L5 ditch. The Corps okayed the work that needed to be done to clean up this ditch. He indicated that the Corps was going to look at Melrose some more before authorizing work to be done there.

Ronald Corkern gave the office activity report and advised that he had written to Russell Stacey regarding the blockage of the drainage ditch at L4. This blockage is due to his fence that extends across the drainage ditch and which has collected debris. The Board instructed Corkern to write a letter to Mr. Stacey advising him of the applicable law and the need to remove his fence or replace it with one that did not trap the debris flowing down the ditch.

The Administrator's report was given by Karlton Methvin. He reported that he had talked with David Dupré with the Corps of Engineers, and it appeared as though the rest of the federal levees would be rocked by the end of the year. He also had inspected the Marco pipes with Gary Eldridge and the two of them had contacted everyone they knew to try and obtain some help to replace those flood gates. He also reported on the prices he had obtained for new tractors that could be purchased under the State contract from the local John Deere dealership. On motion by Gary Anderson, seconded by Adolph Sklar, the Board voted to authorize Karlton Methvin to enter into a two-year lease of the tractor from the local John Deere dealership under terms whereby the District would be able to purchase the tractor at the end of the lease for a nominal amount.

In other business, Corkern advised the Board that it could not vote on rolling the millage rate forward since he had

discovered shortly before the meeting that the advertisement that had been run in the *Natchitoches Times* contained the wrong date for the meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Corkern advised that he would check with Rick Hargis to determine if the process could be started over and placed on the July agenda.

Also under new business the Board discussed a letter from Gary Eldridge regarding the Cane River Lake Dam. The Board instructed Corkern to write a letter to Nick Verrett, District Administrator for the Department of Transportation & Development, asking the DOTD for engineering assistance with respect to the replacement/repair of the dam on the south end of Cane River Lake.

Doris Rogé and Janet Jones reported on the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana Annual Workshop in Baton Rouge which they attended on May 7 and 8. Following their report, on motion by Adolph Sklar, seconded by Alfred Bruning, the Board approved the travel expenses for Ronald Corkern, Doris Rogé and Janet Jones to attend the workshop.

The Board next considered the proposal by SprayMax, Inc. For spraying. After discussing the terms of the proposed contract with Mr. Alan Sheppard of SprayMax, the Board did, on motion by Rayburn Smith, seconded by Gary Anderson, authorize Karlton Methvin to enter into contract with SprayMax, Inc. for the spraying of the levees.

Under old business the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Following the Executive Session, the Board returned to the public meeting, and on motion by Rayburn Smith, seconded by Janet Jones, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Robert Vercher to hire David Rachal as a part time employee if needed. Since Mr. Vercher had left the meeting, Karlton Methvin advised he would communicate this information to Mr. Vercher.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Adolph Sklar, seconded by Doris Rogé, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved on the 9th day of June, 2009, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

RONALD E. CORKERN, JR.,
Attorney/Assistant Secretary